

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 522

By Bowling

A RESOLUTION recognizing Matthew Hampton upon his receipt of the twenty-eighth annual Palmer Veterans Appreciation Award.

WHEREAS, our nation was conceived by individuals who were willing to sacrifice their personal safety and concerns to ensure our individual and collective freedom, and the Volunteer State is especially proud to be the home of so many valiant men and women who have performed above and beyond the call of duty; and

WHEREAS, thousands of Tennesseans continue this time-honored tradition of volunteerism through service in the United States military; and

WHEREAS, Corporal Matthew Hampton, a United States Marine Corps veteran, who served in Operation Iraqi Freedom from 2004-2005, was recently recognized as the recipient of the twenty-eighth annual Palmer Veterans Appreciation Award; and

WHEREAS, sponsored by the Citizens Tri-County Bank, the Palmer Veterans Appreciation Award is presented each year by town historian David Patton; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hampton started basic training at Parris Island, South Carolina, in the summer of 2002, followed by combat training at Camp Devil Dog in North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, he was stationed in Iraq from 2004-2005 with the Marines' 24<sup>th</sup> Expeditionary Force where he served as a Huey and Cobra helicopter crew chief and gunner; and

WHEREAS, Matthew Hampton is the recipient of numerous military decorations including Air Crew Combat Wings, the Naval Achievement Medal, Combat Action Ribbon, Presidential Unit Citation, Naval Unit Citation, National Defense Medal, Iraqi Campaign Medal, and Global War on Terrorism Service Medal; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hampton is a dedicated member of society who inspires those around him and commits himself to the improvement of his community, state, and nation; and

WHEREAS, Corporal Hampton performed his duties with honor, distinction, and a profound regard for the importance of his role as a Marine, and his service can only be categorized as outstanding; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we congratulate Corporal Matthew Hampton upon his receipt of the Palmer Veterans Appreciation Award, extend our deepest gratitude for his service to this country, and offer our best wishes for his every future success and happiness.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.